

**IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for preparing an optical information medium comprising a ~~disk-shaped~~ supporting substrate having a center hole, an ~~annular~~ information recording area provided thereon, and ~~an annular resin-based~~ a light-transmitting layer including a resin layer formed on the information recording area through which recording/reading laser beam is transmitted, ~~wherein~~ comprising:

~~the light-transmitting layer is formed by feeding a coating fluid containing an actinic radiation-curable resin onto the supporting substrate having the information recording area formed thereon and;~~

rotating the supporting substrate ~~for spreading~~ so as to spread the coating fluid over the supporting substrate ~~to thereby~~ and form ~~[[a]]~~ the resin layer~~[[,]]~~; and subsequently,

irradiating the resin layer with actinic radiation to ~~thereby~~ cure said resin layer while reducing ~~[[the]]~~ a rotation speed of the supporting substrate.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein energy density of said actinic radiation on the surface of said resin layer is ~~relatively low around~~ lower in an outer peripheral region of said resin layer than in an inner region of said resin layer.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~irradiation of actinic radiation~~ irradiating is carried out such that an outer boundary of ~~[[the]]~~ an area of the resin layer irradiated with said actinic radiation substantially matches with ~~[[the]]~~ an outer peripheral edge of said supporting substrate.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein, ~~in the formation of the resin layer,~~ said ~~irradiation of actinic radiation~~ irradiating is carried out after

scraping off at least some of the coating fluid that protrudes out of ~~[[the]]~~ an outer peripheral edge of said supporting substrate.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An optical information medium comprising:  
a ~~disk-shaped~~ supporting substrate having a center hole~~[[,]]~~;  
an ~~annular~~ information recording area ~~thereon, and~~ provided on the supporting substrate; and  
~~an annular resin-based~~ a light-transmitting layer formed on the information recording area through which recording/reading laser beam is transmitted, ~~wherein a recess is formed on the surface of the light-transmitting layer including a recess at a position~~ including a recess at a position ~~[[from]]~~ outside the outer peripheral edge of the information recording area ~~to the outer peripheral edge of the light-transmitting layer, and a minute bump~~ formed on the supporting substrate outside of the recess.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The optical information medium according to claim 5, wherein the relation:

$$D_1 \geq D_2$$

is satisfied when ~~[[the]]~~ a distance in a thickness direction from ~~[[the]]~~ a position on a surface of the light-transmitting layer ~~at the position just inside of the recess to~~ at the position just inside of the recess to ~~[[the]]~~ a bottom of the recess is designated as  $D_1$ , and ~~[[the]]~~ a distance in a thickness direction from the bottom of the recess to ~~[[the]]~~ a top of said ~~minute~~ bump is designated as  $D_2$ .

Claim 7 (currently amended): An optical information medium comprising:  
a ~~disk-shaped~~ supporting substrate having a center hole~~[[,]]~~;  
an ~~annular~~ information recording area ~~thereon, and~~ provided on the supporting substrate;  
~~an annular resin-based~~ a light-transmitting layer formed on the information recording area through which recording/reading laser beam is transmitted, ~~wherein the light-~~

transmitting layer ~~is a layer containing~~ including an actinic radiation-curable resin formed by spin coating, and having a thickness of the light-transmitting layer which does not increase from ~~[[the]]~~ an inner peripheral region to ~~[[the]]~~ an outer peripheral region at least in a region of the light transmitting layer, at least on the information recording area, the light-transmitting layer having a thinned portion outside of said region and a thickened portion outside of the thinned portion.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The optical information medium according to claim 7, wherein the thickness of the light-transmitting layer is less at a position in the outer peripheral region compared to the thickness at least at a position in the inner peripheral region ~~of the light-transmitting layer, at least on the information recording area.~~

Claim 9 (new): A method according to Claim 1, wherein the substrate has a disk shape, and the information recording area and the light-transmitting layer are annular.

Claim 10 (new): An optical information medium according to Claim 5, wherein the substrate has a disk shape, the information recording area is annular, and the light-transmitting layer is annular and includes a resin.

Claim 11 (new): An optical information medium according to Claim 7, wherein the substrate has a disk shape, and the information recording area and the light-transmitting layer are annular.

Claim 12 (new): An optical information medium according to Claim 5, wherein the light transmitting layer has a thickness which does not increase from an inner peripheral region to an outer peripheral region at least in a region of the light transmitting layer on the information recording area.